

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 HEW-02 L-03 TRSE-00

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R 261806Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1033

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR WALKER, ARS; FAYANS, FAS;
G.S. BROWN, HOLD FOR OYLOE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: NEW GERMAN FOOD LAW-RESIDUES OF PLANT PROTECT-
ANTS ON FOODS

REF: (A) A-79 OF 2 FEB 73; (B) A-494 OF 2 OCT 74; (C)
A-514 OF 17 OCT 74 (ALL REFS BONN AIRGRAMS)

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 14, PARA. 1, NO. 2, OF THE
NEW GERMAN FOOD LAW, THE MARKETING IN GERMANY OF FOODS
WITH RESIDUES OF PLANT PROTECTANTS NOT SPECIFICALLY AP-
PROVED AND REGISTERED FOR USE IN GERMANY WILL BE PRO-
HIBITED EFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 1978. THE TRANSITION PERIOD
WAS DESIGNED TO GRANT THIRD COUNTRIES TIME TO SUBMIT
APPLICATIONS TO FEDMINHEALTH REQUESTING ESTABLISHMENT OF
TOLERANCES FOR THOSE PROTECTANTS LIKELY TO BE FOUND
IN FOOD PRODUCTS EXPORTED TO THE FRG BUT NOT PRESENTLY
LISTED IN THE PESTICIDE RESIDUE ORDINANCE.

2. WE HAVE BEEN ASKED INFORMALLY ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS
BY FEDMINHEALTH OFFICIALS TO SUBMIT DATA ON U.S. PLANT
PROTECTANTS. WE HAVE NOW BEEN ASKED BY THE CENTRAL AS-
SOCIATION OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE IMPORTERS TO SUB-
MIT SUBJECT DATA TO THEM FOR HANDLING. TO THE LATTER RE-
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QUEST WE HAVE REPLIED THAT ALTHOUGH WE APPRECIATE THE

ASSOCIATION'S CONCERN, THE MATTER IS PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION AND ANY ACTION TAKEN WILL BE HANDLED BY THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE. A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION REQUEST WILL BE TRANSMITTED UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

3. DUE TO THE EXTREMELY SENSITIVE NATURE OF THIS SUBJECT, THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED, AND THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND FRG MEASURING SYSTEMS, WE NEED TO ESTABLISH OUR POLICY REGARDING THIS MATTER.

4. OUR SUGGESTED SCENARIO FOR APPROACHING THE PROBLEM IS AS FOLLOWS: AGATTACHE OYLOE WILL TAKE UP THE SUBJECT WITH APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS DURING HIS HOME LEAVE CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON 7-18 JULY 1975, AND DECIDE ON GENERAL POLICY GUIDELINES. USDA WILL PROVIDE POST WITH A QUOTE CROSS HATCH UNQUOTE SHOWING WHICH PLANT PROTECTANTS ARE USED FOR WHICH COMMODITIES IN THE U.S., AND THE APPROPRIATE TOLERANCES (OBTAINABLE WE UNDERSTAND FROM PRIVATE INDUSTRY SOURCES). USING THE U.S. CROSS HATCH, POST WILL ANALYZE INsofar AS POSSIBLE THE EFFECTS OF THE FRG LEGISLATION ON U.S. COMMODITIES, AND ADVISE USG OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. USG THEN IN CONSULTATION BOTH INTERNALLY AND WITH U.S. TRADE CAN DECIDE ON FINAL USG POSITION VIS-A-VIS COMPLIANCE WITH FRG ORDINANCE.

5. ACTION REQUEST OF WALKER AND FAYANS OF USDA: PLS COORDINATE AND ARRANGE TO OBTAIN COPY OF REQUESTED CROSS HATCH DOCUMENT FOR TRANSMISSION TO POST. DR. OYLOE WILL CONTACT YOU RE CONVENIENT TIME AND DATE FOR EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMERCIAL LAW, FOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN10373
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750222-0917
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750611/aaaaajgj.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AGR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 A-79, 75 OF 2, 75 FEB 73, 75 A-494, 75 OF 2, 75 OCT 74
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW GERMAN FOOD LAW-RESIDUES OF PLANT PROTECT- ANTS ON FOODS
TAGS: EAGR, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006